

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 3 and 4 stand allowed.

I. Corrected Drawings

Applicant has submitted herewith corrected drawings. The corrections have been made to match the disclosure in the specification to show the compensation electrode 17 in the same layer as the scanning line 11. The Examiner has acknowledged of pages 5-6 of the pending office action that this feature is disclosed in the original specification, and thus, no new matter has been added. For the Examiner's convenience, Applicant has also submitted herewith formal drawings which incorporate the proposed changes.

II. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for lacking proper antecedent basis for the term "short axis." Applicant has amended claim 1 and corrected the antecedent basis informality, and as a result, the scope of the claim has not been narrowed. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112(2) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Okamoto *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,825,445). To be an "anticipation" rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102, the reference must teach every element and limitation of the Applicant's claims. A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found either expressly or

inherently in a single prior art reference. Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). In fact, the identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as contained in the claim. Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

Applicant submits that Okamoto fails to teach the claimed display device structure. For example, Okamoto does not disclose among the claimed elements, an OCB-type liquid crystal display device in which the signal lines are in the same layer as the pixel electrode. As acknowledged by the Examiner in paragraph 2 of the pending office action, the signal lines are not shown in the drawings nor disclosed as being in the same layer as the pixel electrode. Accordingly, by the Examiner's acknowledgement, the Okamoto reference does not disclose an OCB-type liquid crystal display device in which the signal lines are in the same layer as the pixel electrode. Therefore, Applicant submits that Okamoto does not teach or disclose a pixel electrode being in the same layer as the signal lines. As a result, Okamoto fails to teach all of the limitations of claims 1 and 2.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyazawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,011,604) in view of Okamoto. To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness the Examiner must show that the prior art references, when combined, teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. See MPEP § 2143. Applicant respectfully submits that the references cited

above by the Examiner fail to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations as set forth in the present application. Specifically, as recited in claim 5, the cited references fail to teach or suggest that the compensation electrode is formed in the same layer as the scanning line and in between the pixel electrode and the scanning line.

In response to Applicant's arguments that the references fail to teach or suggest this feature, the Examiner's only argument is that this feature is not shown in Applicant's drawings. The Examiner does not contend that this feature is taught or suggested in the cited references. In other words, the Examiner does not dispute that the cited references fail to teach or suggest this feature, instead the Examiner only contends that this feature is not shown in Applicant's drawings. However, since Applicant has submitted new corrected drawings, it is now clear that this feature is shown therein. As a result, the Examiner's argument is now moot.

Furthermore, the Examiner acknowledges on page 3 of the pending office action that Miyazawa teaches a compensation electrode 35 being formed in a layer lower than scanning lines 31 or signal lines 32. Since Okamoto also fails to teach this feature and since the Examiner has given no indication of why this feature would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, Applicant submits that the cited references fail to teach or suggest that the compensation electrode is formed in the same layer as the scanning line and in between the pixel electrode and the scanning line. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 5-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Appln. No.: 09/735,907

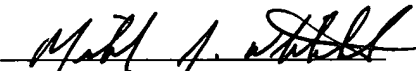
Attorney Docket No.: Q62301

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 5, 2003



APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

RECEIVED
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IN THE DRAWINGS:

Attached hereto is a Request for Approval of Proposed Drawing Corrections. Attached to the Request is a copy of Figs. 8 and 9 with the changes indicated in red ink.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Amended) An OCB (optically compensated bend)-type liquid crystal display device, assembled by opposing an active matrix substrate, which comprises a plurality of rectangular pixel regions, each of which is surrounded by one of a plurality of scanning lines arranged in parallel and one of a plurality of signal lines crossing said plurality of scanning lines through an insulating layer and each of which comprises a pixel electrode and a thin film transistor, and a transparent substrate provided with a common electrode, inserting a liquid crystal therebetween, and the opposing surface of the active matrix substrate and the opposing surface of the transparent substrate are treated so as to have the same orientation directions, wherein said orientation directions are limited to within ± 45 degrees for ~~the~~ a short axis direction of the pixel electrode, wherein the signal lines are formed in a same layer as the pixel electrode.

5. (Amended) An OCB-type liquid crystal display device, ~~assembled by opposing~~
comprising:

an active matrix substrate, which comprises a plurality of rectangular pixel regions, each of which is surrounded by one of a plurality of scanning lines arranged in parallel and one of a plurality of signal lines crossing said plurality of scanning lines through an insulating layer and each of which comprises a pixel electrode and a thin film transistor, ~~and;~~

a transparent substrate opposing said active matrix substrate provided with a common electrode, inserting a liquid crystal therebetween, and the opposing surface of the active matrix substrate and the opposing surface of the transparent substrate are treated so as to have the same orientation directions,

wherein a compensation electrode, which is capable of generating an electric field between ~~said signal line or the scanning line~~ and said pixel electrode, is formed in the same layer as that of the scanning line ~~or the signal line~~ between the scanning line and ~~the signal line of~~ said pixel.